

X  
HN 64  
. C44  
Copy 1

# THE GREAT WAR

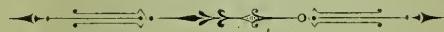
34092 S OF  
**Monarchy versus Republicanism,**

OR

**THE SOVEREIGNTY OF ONE MAN OR  
THE FEW**

VERSUS

**The Sovereignty, Equal Rights and Liberties  
of the People.**



**SHOWING THE MEASURES NECESSARY FOR DESTROYING  
MONOPOLIES AND CHAINING THE DRAGON  
POWER OF MONARCHY FOREVER.**

By B. J. Chambers,  
✓

AUTHOR OF "SACRED COIN CONTRACTS," "OPEN LETTERS TO PRESIDENT  
CLEVELAND," AND OTHER BRIEF POLITICAL ESSAYS.

Copyright 1887 by the author. All rights reserved.

CHRONICLE JOB OFFICE PRINT,  
CLEBURNE, TEXAS.  
1888.



THE GREAT WAR  
OF  
Monarchy versus Republicanism,  
OF  
THE SOVEREIGNTY OF ONE MAN OR  
THE FEW  
VERSUS  
The Sovereignty, Equal Rights and Liberties  
of the People.

SHOWING THE MEASURES NECESSARY FOR DESTROYING  
MONOPOLIES AND CHAINING THE DRAGON  
POWER OF MONARCHY FOREVER.

*222*  

---

By B. J. Chambers,

AUTHOR OF "SACRED COIN CONTRACTS," "OPEN LETTERS TO PRESIDENT  
CLEVELAND," AND OTHER BRIEF POLITICAL ESSAYS.

Copyright 1887 by the author. All rights reserved.

1888:  
CHRONICLE JOB OFFICE PRINT.  
CLEBURNE, TEXAS.



## PREFACE.

It has ever been a favorite theory of the Kings and Princes of the world that the people are incapable of self government, as in a republic, based upon the sovereignty and equal rights of the people. And while the theory seems to be proved true by the failure of all experiments of this character in past ages of the world, and seems likely again to be proved true by a like failure in our government, as in the history of other republics, yet, the author stubbornly refuses to accept the theory as necessarily and infallibly true. And, hence, noting the methods by which its fundamental principles have been destroyed, viz; by the assumption or usurpations of powers not delegated, by our national legislators and public servants, thus constituting themselves a hydra-headed monarchical dragon power robbing and plundering the people of their natural, equal rights in their national, common or sovereign properties and transferring them at discretion, like other absolute sovereigns, to corporations and favored persons or classes. The seizure and usurpation of such powers by the legislators and public servants of the people was a complete wreck of the basis or fundamental principles of our government, a revolution in fact—creating an oligarchy of favored persons and classes invested with monopolies of the sovereign properties of the people and enslaving them for their use, as in oligarchies or absolute monarchies.

Considering these facts in connection with the claim of these conspirators against the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people, and to ascertain, if possible, what defect there is in the constitutional organic provisions, which made these results possible he could find no defect except in not more clearly defining and limiting the power of the public servants of the people in the administration and distribution of their sovereign properties. And as to the claim of the usurpers of constitutional authority for their treasonable acts he could find none and has refuted the claim in chapter IV and other chapters of this work.

The argument throughout is not theoritical but consists mainly of a statement of fundamental principles, prominent facts and others in the nature of corollaries; and urges the necessity of the resumption by the people of the ownership, control and equal rights in their common or sovereign properties, and the adoption of a constitutional amendment (exhibited) more clearly defining the powers of their public servants in the administrations of these properties. And while opposing all violent or radical measures in the process of resumption, suggests measures by which it can be accomplished without doing any real injury to any class of our fellow citizens: Thus inaugurating a government of the people that shall never be destroyed.

THE AUTHOR.

NOTE : This work has been delayed several weeks by being burned with our office, a large part of which the author has had to rewrite.

EDITOR CHRONICLE.

## The Leading Truth or Proposition.

---

That in all civilized nations there are certain properties consisting of the land, the money and public highways of communication and commerce, that are recognized as governmental properties; that these properties embody all the elements of wealth and political power; and that they are universally found in the ownership and control of the sovereign or governing person or class. And, hence as a corollary truth :

That whoever, (any one or class of citizens) by whatever means, whether by brute force with sword and spear, usually practiced in the establishment of monarchies, or through the forms of unconstitutional laws as practiced by the legislators and public servants of the people in republican governments, can or may acquire the recognized ownership and control of these properties thereby acquires the essential elements of sovereignty and the power of enslaving the people for their necessary use in the support of life and existence. And, therefore, throughout the work the methods through which the people are plundered of their equal rights in these properties will be exposed, the necessity of the resumption of the ownership and control of these properties by the people will be urged, and the absolute necessity for the adoption of a constitutional amendment (exhibited) by the people more clearly defining and limiting the power of their legislators and public servants in the administration and distribution of these properties.

BY THE AUTHOR.

# THE GREAT WAR

—o—

## OF MONARCHY VERSUS REPUBLICANISM.

—o—

### CHAPTER I.

THAT THERE IS AND EVER HAS BEEN A SEEMINGLY IRREPRESSIBLE  
AND PERPETUAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THESE TWO FORMS OR  
SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT, AND THAT MONARCHY OR,

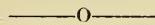
The sovereignty of one man or the few, in all past ages of the world has ever been successful in the contest, need not be affirmed, for all history testifies to the truth. But the question arises, how is it possible for one man or the few to subjugate and enslave opposing millions, undermine and destroy their form of government and set up monarchies or oligarchies in their stead? As, for instance, how can or will it ever be possible for one man or the few to destroy our government which nine-tenths of the Democratic and Republican millions constituting it desire to maintain and perpetuate, and passionately hating monarchy and all its principles and practices. Considering only the direct operation of opposing forces this would seem to be impossible; but that it is possible, however, cannot be doubted or questioned, because we know from history that all other Republics have been destroyed and monarchies erected on their ruins. It is, therefore, manifest that there must be some insidious processes or methods through which this is accomplished, not generally understood by the great masses of the people, or they would be guarded against and prevented. To explain and expose these methods, so that the people understanding them may be enabled to prohibit and restrain their operation in the future, is the great object of the author in writing this little book. In this effort he will endeavor not to confuse or weary the minds of his readers by any tedious, abstruse or metaphysical disquisitions on the so-called science of government as usually practiced by the writers of ponderous volumes; but, by a plain statement of a few prominent truths, well attested by history, in connection with the fundamental principles which distinguish these two forms or systems of government, show wherein this controlling and enslaving power exists, how it is acquired and put in operation by one man or the few, and how to limit and restrain their operation in the future.

The first prominent truth we will call the attention of the reader is that in all civilized governments there are certain properties consisting of the land, the money and public highways of communication and commerce, that are recognized as governmental properties; that these properties embody all the elements of wealth and political power; and that they are universally found in the ownership and

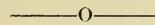
control of the sovereign or ruling person or class. So it is that in absolute monarchies these properties are recognized as sovereign properties belonging to the King, legally and popularly known as the King's land, the King's money, and the King's highways, and history demonstrates the fact that so long as the Kings are, or have been, permitted to monopolize the ownership and control of these properties they can and do exercise the power of absolute sovereignty. The fact is also well attested by history that whenever, by whatever means, monarchs have been deprived of the absolute ownership and control of these properties their sovereignty has been limited or destroyed, and universally passes into the hands of those who may have acquired them. So it is that in the limited monarchies now existing in Europe the ownership and control of these properties having been wrested from the Kings by their Dukes, Earls, Lords and Barons, they are no longer absolute sovereigns, and though nominally recognized as Kings, they are, in fact, but mere "puppets" or "figure heads," constrained to execute the laws or decrees of the so-called nobles and favored classes who now monopolize them, or permit them to be executed in their names; while the great mass of the people being disinherited and deprived of their natural equal rights in these properties are as completely impoverished and enslaved under the governments of these aristocrats or oligarchs as formerly under their absolute sovereigns. So inexorable is the power of a monopoly, of these properties which embody all the necessities of life and existence that it may be affirmed as a universal truth, without an exception in the history of nations, that whoever, (any one or class of citizens) by whatever means, whether by brute force with sword and spear, as usually practiced in the establishment of monarchies, or through the forms of unconstitutional laws as practiced by the legislators and public servants of the people in Republics, can or may acquire a recognized ownership and control of these properties, thereby acquires the essential elements of sovereignty and the power of enslaving the people for their use in the support of life and existence. For, thus, holding, as it were, the power of life and death through a monopoly of the means by which men live, their will becomes dominant over the will and actions of the people to the extent of their monopoly, and when centered in a single person his will becomes absolute as in absolute monarchies. Thus it is that one man is constrained to labor for another, often against his will, for a mere pittance scarcely sufficient to support life; and, also, enables one man to say to another, "Go, and he goeth; to another come, and he cometh; to another do this, and he doeth it." Yea, so inexorable is this power that it often constrains men to arm themselves in the service of traitors and aid them in overthrowing their governments. And thus Republics have often been destroyed.

Thus, we have, in a few brief sentences, exposed to view the fountains and sources of monarchy,—a monopoly of the land, the money, and public highways of communication and commerce—and

the methods by which they are acquired are the insidious means through which the spirit of monarchy prevails in undermining and destroying Republicanism. It is accomplished simply by wresting from the people by violence, or through the forms of law, their natural, equal rights in their lands, their money and public highways and enslaving them for their use. We now witness the effects of these methods in our government, and, unless soon arrested, must inevitably result in anarchy and a bloody revolution repeating the history of past ages. And we here affirm that, according to historical records and teachings, nearly all the bloody wars and revolutions in ancient and modern times, with nearly all the black budget of crimes that stain the records of humanity, have had their origin, directly or indirectly, in robberies of the people of their natural rights in these national or common properties, or in their efforts to recover them, or in struggles between the robbers themselves for the ownership and control of them as a basis of sovereignty, and as a means of wresting from the disinherited and industrial millions a great share of the products and profits of their daily labor for the use of these properties. It is plainly manifest, therefore that if the people in our government would secure their sovereignty and liberties they must resume the ownership, control and usufructs in their national or common properties, and by constitutional amendments forever limit and restrain their legislators and public servants from robbing them of them and transferring them to corporations and favored classes.



## REPUBLICANISM—ITS PRINCIPLES.



### CHAPTER II.

Wise and good men in every age of the world observing the unholy ambition of men to rule over and enslave their fellow men; and that, a monopoly of the ownership and control of the land, the money and public highways of a country constitute the principal means by which they are enabled to accomplish their devilish purpose, have ever sought to construct a system or constitution of government that would prevent the acquisition of a monopoly of these properties by one man or the few. Hence Republics have been established, laying their foundations in the sovereignty of the people and their equal rights in these national or common properties. And, hence, also, our fathers boldly proclaiming the equal rights of all men, and revolting against the tyranny of Kings, Lords, Barons and other favored classes, holding monopolies of these properties and oppressing the people for their use, "ordained and established" our existing constitution of government, recognizing the will of the people, as therein expressed, as the supreme authority and their equal rights in these properties as *common properties*, and entrusting their administration and equal distribution among the people, and

protection to their persons and property rights to legislators and other public servants to be selected by a majority of the people, and solemnly sworn to perform these duties. These constitute the fundamental principles of our government and the objects for which it was created. But, alas! by not more definitely limiting and restraining the powers of our legislators and public servants in the administration and distribution of their common properties, they have, regardless of their oaths to support the constitution and to maintain the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people, robbed and plundered them of their equal rights in these properties and transferred them in vast amounts and unequal shares and benefits to corporations and favored classes, which now holding a monopoly of them, are impoverishing and enslaving the people for their use, precisely as do the Lords, Barons and other favored classes in monarchies. To restore to the disinherited millions their equal rights in these properties, and to restrain our treasonable legislators and public servants from hereafter plundering them of their equal rights therein by constitutional amendments, too strong to be broken, is the great political problem of the present and the future.

To suggest legal and peaceful measures by which this may be accomplished for the common benefit, and without doing any real injury to any class of our fellow citizens; to aid in restoring man to his allegiance to his great creator, and a recognition of a common brotherhood of equal rights in all that he has created for the common benefit, and in all the creations of their joint or co-operation power; to hasten the time when all men shall be allowed to enjoy the fruits of their labor under their own vine and fig tree, and none dare to molest or make them afraid; the time when the swords shall be beaten into plowshares and the spears into pruning hooks; the time when the people shall wrest from Satan and his minions the kingdoms of the world and restore them to Him whose right it is to reign, and the time when the bloody dragon power of monarchy shall be forever chained is the great purpose of the author in writing this work.

---

### CHAPTER III.

#### MONARCHY—ITS ORIGIN, CHARACTER AND METHODS OF WARFARE AGAINST REPUBLICANISM.

According to Biblical history the Satanic spirit of monarchy was implanted in man in the garden of Eden in partaking of the forbidden fruit in violation of the Divine command on the suggestion and temptation of Satan in the disguise of a serpent. "Eat (said the tempter) \* \* \* and ye shall be as Gods"—Kings law makers and rulers instead of God. The same tempter that took Christ into a high mountain and showed Him the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them, saying: "All these will I give you if you will fall down and worship me." if you will acknowledge me as your liege

Lord. We know not whether these records are literal or allegorical; nor is this knowledge necessary to our purpose; for we do know, both from Divine and profane history, that throughout all subsequent ages of the world, in the wretched and dreadful struggle for dominion, every man's hand has been against his brother; and that the would-be Monarch or King, taking advantage of all favorable opportunities, seems to be restrained by no oaths, no obligation of trusts, no sympathies of a common brotherhood, and no humanity, but in his mad ambition for wealth, power and dominion, he unhesitatingly seizes the sword or other implements of war and pursues his purpose through bloody battle fields and over the bodies of the slain; and having thus beaten down all resistance he seizes upon the land, the control of the money and public highways and calls them *his sovereign properties*, and proceeds to distribute them out among his confederate robber chieftains whom he dubs Dukes, Earls, Lords, Barons, &c., as rewards for their services in making him King, and upon the condition of maintaining his sovereignty and assumed prerogative rights over these properties. And these so-called nobles and other favored persons or classes, being thus invested with a quasi ownership and control of these properties are enabled to wrest from the disinherited and enslaved millions a great share of the products and profits of their labor through rents for land, interest for money, and tribute on their commerce ever the so-called King's highways.

Such is the true picture of human Monarchy as exhibited in its violent or bloody character in all ages of the world; and in this character was correctly photographed in the Apocalypse by the Divine Artist himself under the symbol of a "great red dragon."

But these are not the only methods through which the Santanic spirit of Monarchy succeeds in destroying Republican governments and the equal rights and liberties of the people. For, whenever or wherever in the history of the world the people have succeeded in organizing Republican governments, recognizing the sovereignty of the people and their equal rights in their national or common properties, it sends forth its tools and emissaries in various disguises, and even as Satan disguised as a serpent invaded the garden of Eden to deceive and rob our first parents of their happy home, so these, too, sometimes even assuming the names of Democrats and Republicans, have invaded the domains of the people, and, having by false promises and deceitful pretenses, gained the confidence of the people and secured appointments as their legislators and public servants, and thus gained admission into their halls of legislation, then, utterly regardless of their promises and pledges to the people, and of their oaths to support their constitution and maintain their sovereignty, equal rights and liberties, enter into combinations and conspiracies for robbing them of their common properties; and, under the plan, it may be, of "division and silence," transferring them to corporations and favored classes through the forms of so-called law. And these favored classes, being thus invested with the ownership and

control of these properties, are enabled to wrest from the disinherited millions a great share of the products of their daily labor for the use of these properties, creating millionaires and impoverishing the many for the benefit of the few. Thus the great fundamental principles of Republicanism, recognizing a common brotherhood of equal rights and an equal inheritance in their common properties being destroyed, brother is soon arrayed against brother, and class against class, and eventually these unjust and treasonable laws, losing the respect of the oppressed and enslaved millions, combinations began to be formed to resist the power of their oppressors, generally ending in anarchy and violence. Then some military chieftain steps forth, supported by mercenary armies and proclaims or causes himself to be proclaimed King; and, so, the Republic is destroyed. This is a true statement of the methods through which the Satanic spirit of Monarchy undermines and destroys Republicanism through the operation of treasonable and unconstitutional laws, and the establishment of Monarchies on their ruins. It was thus the great Republics of ancient Greece and Rome were destroyed; thus their great millionaires were created; and thus, when the disinherited, impoverished and enslaved millions, driven to desperation under the ever increasing exactions of the monopolistic classes, began to form associations to resist their tyranny; then it was that these wealthy millionaires, in order to secure their spoils, hired mercenary armies to slaughter the people, destroy their Republics and set up Monarchies in their stead. This may be stated as the well known political highway of the decline and fall of Republics.

And, alas! how perfectly similar in all, save the bloody tragedy to be played in the future, perhaps, in an endeavor to secure the spoils, and perpetually enslave the people, have been the methods of their national public servants (and followed by their State legislatures to the extent of their jurisdiction) in plundering the people of their equal rights in their land, their money and public highways, and transferring them to co-operations and favored classes. Their unconstitutional laws enacted for the purpose will ever stand until repealed, a black monument of their treason. Disregarding their oaths to support the Constitution, ordained and established by the fathers to secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and posterity forever, they have, without a shadow of constitutional authority, usurped the power of creating banking, railway and other corporations, and contrary to the fundamental principles of Republicanism, plundered the people of their national or common properties; and, after the manner of Kings in the feudal ages of the world in granting these properties to their feudal lords, have transferred them in vast amounts and unequal shares and benefits to these illegitimate, bastard corporations; and which, now holding a monopoly of them, are enabled to wrest from the disinherited laboring and producing millions a great share of the profits of their labor for their use, precisely as do the so-called nobles and favored classes in Monarchies. And we here and now affirm that no military chief-

tain or bloody Monarch in ancient or modern times with sword and spear, has ever robbed the people of any nation more successfully, and in few instances more extensively, than have our treasonable legislators and public servants through the forms of unconstitutional laws; and that, so far as robbery constitutes communism, we affirm that our legislators and public servants, with the receivers of the stolen properties, may claim pre-eminence over the Kings of the earth and their confederate robbers; and that, together, they constitute the worst communists that have ever prayed on the property rights of mankind. And we further affirm that any Congress or State legislature, whether disguised as Republicans, Democrats or otherwise, using such powers, do but exhibit themselves as a hydra-headed monarchical dragon power, restrained by no sense of justice, no obligation of trust, no regard for the equal rights of citizens, no sympathies of a common brotherhood, and no humanity; but, oblivious to all, set themselves up as supreme and plunder the people of their property rights as remorselessly as any Monarch in Christendom. And in these methods they might even claim to be peers with Saten himself in *his* methods in the garden of Eden, in seducing our first parents from their allegiance to God and usurping His rightful soverereignty over the children of His creation and the works of His hands.

Dear reader, we know these are hard sayings, but they are simple truths, well attested by the legislative history of our country. Much of it, perhaps, has been done in ignorance, not securing the ultimate results. We state them thus plainly that those who may have ignorantly aided in these great crimes may realize their enormity, and purchance, render aid in averting the consequences of their great errors; but, chiefly, that the people, clearly comprehending the methods by which the tools and emissaries of Monarchy are undermining and destroying our government and reducing them to vas-salage and slavery to corporations and favored classes, may be stimulated to unite their voices in the election of public servants who will repeal these robber laws and restore these properties to the people. And, inasmuch as their treasonable public servants pretend to claim constitutional authority for thus plundering them of these properties, to show the absolute necessity of so amending their constitutions as to forever prohibit and restrain them from robbing them of these properties in the future.

---

## CHAPTER IV.

OUR CONSTITUTION DOES NOT DELEGATE SUCH AUTHORITY, BUT NEEDS  
AMENDMENTS MORE CLEALY DEFINING AND LIMITING THE  
POWERS DELEGATED.

If there is any political truth more clearly demonstrated by history than any other, it is that no man nor set of men, can be entrusted with *discretionary* power (which is sovereign power) in the administration and distribution of the land, the money and public high-

ways of a country, which embody the principal elements of all wealth, sovereignty and political power in all nations. Kings seize and appropriate them for the perpetuation of their power and the enslavement of the people for their use. Aristocrats or Oligarchs seize and appropriate them for like purposes. And our own public servants, entrusted with them, under the most solemn obligations to distribute them among the people in equal shares or benefits, and to protect them in their use, have, in violation of their oaths and trusts transferred them in vast amounts and unequal shares and benefits to individuals and corporations, which, now holding monopolies of them, are enslaving the disinherited industrial and producing classes for their use, precisely as in Monarchies or Oligarchies. And this shows the absolute necessity of more clearly defining and limiting their powers in the administration and distribution of these properties, as demanded in the sovereign people's platform and the constitutional amendment hereinafter set forth.

But we most emphatically deny that our Constitution as it exists, when properly interpreted, gives any authority for the usurpations and perversions of the powers as exercised by our public servants: and this we propose to show as briefly as possible.

For the purpose of this exposition we will here present the several provisions of the Constitution delegating powers to Congress respecting these properties, and then proceed to give them a rational interpretation consistent with the intent and purposes for which the powers were delegated, and expose the methods by which they have been abused, perverted and prostituted.

Part of section VIII. of article I. delegates power to Congress—  
“To coin money, regulate the value thereof and of foreign coins.”

Another clause of the same section and article delegates power to Congress—

“To borrow money on the credit of the United States.”

And section 3 of article IV. declares :

“The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other properties belonging to the United States”—to the people constituting the Government of the United States, of course.

As the creation of corporations is closely identified with the question of constitutionality, being the principal receivers and beneficiaries of the properties which we allege to have been wrested from the people and transferred to them without constitutional authority, we will first consider the constitutionality of these acts. But, really, there is nothing to consider; for we aver that there is not a word or sentence in the whole Constitution that, by any rational inference or implication, can be construed to make such a grant of power. We therefore feel justified in declaring that all acts of Congress creating corporations, of any class or character, are gross usurpations of power not delegated, involving absolute perjury. But, besides that, there is no grant of such power, directly or indirectly; we are also advised by the history of the proceedings of the convention that framed our

Constitution, that when a proposition was made to delegate power to create corporations for national purposes it was largely voted down. This fact is conclusive that no such power was delegated, nor intended to be delegated. And yet a Supreme Court of the United States, while reciting this fact, have decided that Congress has the power to do so. Comment is unnecessary.

In relation to the meaning and intent of the powers delegated "To coin money," "To borrow money," "To dispose of the territory," &c., which we have recited, it is universally admitted by all jurists and learned men that where any doubt arises as to the true meaning of any provision of law, it must be interpreted in harmony with the intention of the lawgiver and the purpose had in view. In these cases there can be no doubt of the intention and purposes of the lawgiver—the States and people—in making these grants of power, viz., that of maintaining the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people forever, as against the tyranny of Kings, Aristocrats and favored classes holding monopolies of these properties and enslaving the people for their use.

As these principles of interpretation are admitted, we will proceed to examine the true meaning of these several grants of power. And first, the power "to dispose of \* \* \* the territory and other properties," &c., inasmuch as this is claimed by our legislators and public servants, and the receivers of these properties, as authority for transferring the ownership and control of them to such corporations and favored classes. Is this manner of the disposition of these properties consistent with the intention and purposes for which this grant of power was made by the founders of our government? Every man of common sense will at once perceive that it is not. But does the literal meaning of the word "dispose," or the term "to dispose of," authorize such use of this power? We aver that it does not, and will refer the reader to Mr. Webster's unabridged dictionary for the proof. Mr. Webster gives the meaning of the word "dispose," as a verb—equivalent to the term "to dispose of"—as follows:

- 1st. To distribute and put in place; to arrange; to put in order.
- 2d. To regulate; to fix; to adjust; to order; to determine.
- 3d. To deal out; to assign to; to bestow for an object or purpose.
- 4th. To give a tendency to (relating to the mind).
- 5th. "To bargain; to make terms."

This last is the only definition that could be interpreted to mean a power to sell or alienate these properties, but this meaning Mr. Webster declares to be "obsolete." All these meanings, and especially the first and leading, indicates a partition or distribution according to some recognized rule; and when it is considered that by the fundamental principles of our government these properties belong to the people as *common properties*, there can be no question that the power "to dispose of the territory and other properties" was intended simply as a power in trust to divide and distribute them among the people according to their sovereign, inherent and equal rights therein, as indicated both by the literal meaning of the terms of the grant and the purposes for which the grants were made. The abuse of this power by Congress is simply treason—a robbery of the people of their sov-

ereign properties ; undermining and destroying their equal rights, sovereignty and liberties, and reducing them to vassalage and slavery to corporations and favored classes.

To make this more manifest, if possible, let us suppose that our public servants in Congress, in their assumed or usurped *discretionary* power, were to create a corporation composed of the Queen of Great Britain, the Czar of Russia, the Emperor of Germany and the Pope of Rome, and transfer to them the ownership and control of the land, the money and public highways of the people of our government. Would not the people soon discover the act to be high treason, and hang them as high as Haman ? And yet they have as much power to do this as they have to transfer the control and usufructs of these properties to our existing banking, railway and telegraphic corporations.

While we think we have refuted all claims to constitutional authority in relation to these acts, yet these tools and emissaries of Monarchy—these usurpers of the sovereign prerogatives and properties of the people—are never without some argument, however groundless, to deceive and hold the people in slavery. And hence they assume that these several grants of power invests Congress with the whole sovereign power of the people over these properties, and that their public servants in Congress may constitutionally exercise all the power over them commonly exercised by other sovereigns, subject to no limitations save their own discretion. This argument is very often used, only slightly modified, and is substantially the argument of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Juliard vs. Greenman*, decided in 1884. In that decision even the provisions of the tenth amendment declaring that “the powers not delegated to the United States (to Congress) by this Constitution \* \* \* are reserved to the people,” is swept away in one short sentence. And instead of deciding that the power to give legal tender functions to paper was inherent in the power to make or coin money, decided it upon this monstrous assumption of *discretionary power, as exercised by other sovereigns!* And, to illustrate this monstrous dogma, traveling out of the record and the question raised in the case, while admitting that when a proposition was made to the convention which framed our Constitution, to delegate power to Congress to create corporations for national purposes was refused and largely voted down, yet endorsed former decisions of the court that Congress had the power. And so the public servants of the people, panoplied with the concurrence of our highest courts and executive officers, with the instincts and characteristics of the dragon power of Monarchy, rob and plunder the people of their common or sovereign properties as remorselessly as any Monarch in Christendom. Such decisions must be reversed by the sovereign people ; and if they hope or desire to maintain their sovereignty, equal rights and liberties, they must resume the ownership and control of their common properties and their equal rights therein, and effectually limit and restrain their legislators and public servants from robbing them of them.

## CHAPTER V. OUR PUBLIC LANDS.

**A NATIONAL OR COMMON PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE IN EQUAL SHARES AND BENEFITS BY THE CREATION AND GIFT OF GOD, BY RIGHT OF SOVEREIGNTY AND THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF OUR GOVERNMENT.**

In relation to this property, our legislators and public servants, assuming or usurping the power to give, grant and alienate them at *discretion*, like other absolute sovereigns, instead of distributing them among the people according to their equal rights therein, have robbed them and transferred them by hundreds of millions of acres to railway and other corporations which they have created without a shadow of constitutional authority, and which are now reducing the industrial classes to vassalage and slavery for their use. They have even permitted alien enemies, owing no allegiance to our own government, to monopolize vast amounts of our public and private lands, and who are now levying tribute on our citizens for their use, like the feudal lords in Monarchies.

---

## CHAPTER VI. OUR MONEY.

**MONEY IS A SOVEREIGN PROPERTY WHICH BELONGS TO THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE WHO CREATE IT, OR PROVIDE FOR ITS CREATION, WITH ALL THE BENEFITS AND USUFRUCTS ARISING FROM ITS CREATION AND ISSUE.**

The sovereign people of the United States have delegated power to Congress—

“To coin money, regulate the value thereof and of foreign coins.”

We now propose to examine the nature and extent of this power ; why or for what purpose money is created or coined ; what gives value to money ; why this power was delegated to Congress ; and how Congress has executed, or rather perverted, this high trust.

In considering the nature and extent of this power it is a matter of first importance to understand

### WHAT IS MONEY.

As to what money really is, we here present two definitions in as few words as possible to convey a clear conception.

First. Money is any convenient and suitable substance or material which, when properly prepared for use as money, is invested by the law or decree of the sovereign authority providing for its creation with the functions of legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private, in the jurisdiction of the sovereign power creating it.

Second. Money is a *bill of credit* issued by the authority of some sovereign power, with a promise that the government issuing it will

receive it from any lawful holder at the value printed, stamped or impressed on its face in the payment of all taxes and debts due the government, and, by law (usually called the law of legal tender), requiring all citizens of such government to receive it for all debts due him, her or them by any other citizen or citizens.

We are aware that the term money, in common parlance, is often applied to mere currencies, representations of or substitutes for money, not possessing any or only a part of the real or legal tender functions of money. This is an improper use of the term money. We insist that any material to be money must be endowed by law with *all* the functions of legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private.

As to the value of money—bills of credit—thus endowed with the functions of legal tender, it matters not whether they be printed or engraved on paper, not costing one cent, or whether they be stamped on pieces of gold or silver costing ninety or a hundred cents to the dollar, they are equally valuable as money. They are simply the highest form of credit, endorsed, as it were, by every citizen of the government—all, by the law of legal tender, being bound for their redemption. In view of these facts, attested by experience, it may be pertinently asked: Why, then, do our legislators and public servants pay ninety or a hundred cents for gold or silver bullion to issue bills of credit upon? There is absolutely no other answer to this question than that they are either fools or knaves. And, to illustrate the truth of such answer, it is only necessary to observe that if a citizen in his private business were to pay ninety or a hundred cents for any material to write his note or bill of credit upon, when he could write it upon a piece of paper which would not cost him one cent, he would be regarded as a lunatic and probably be confined in a lunatic asylum. And many of our so-called “great statesmen” and “financiers” should be treated in like manner, or hanged as knaves as high as Haman was.

The purpose of making or coining money—equivalent terms when used in relation to this grant of power—grows out of the imperious necessity of mankind, when associated in governments, for the use of some token or thing, convenient and portable, possessing exchangeable value, to enable them to pay their debts and taxes and exchange property without the actual delivery of other property of equal value. This token—bill of credit—money—is created by law, and when endowed with all the functions of legal tender becomes universally valuable in exchange for all property; and, when honestly created and issued for the common benefit, is probably the greatest and most useful invention that has ever been created by man; but when perverted by the creation of substitutes for private or corporate benefit, as has been done by our legislators and public servants, is probably the greatest curse.

We will now proceed to show, as relating to our government, why the power to make or coin money was delegated to Congress. The first great object was to procure a sufficiency of money—paper money

or paper bills of credit, as you please—of equal value with, and to supplement the inadequate amount of, gold and silver coins to supply the necessities of the people for the payment of debts and taxes and the exchanges of commerce throughout the States then endeavoring to form our federal or national government as now existing under our Constitution. This it was impossible to do without the States surrendering a portion of their sovereignty then exercised by them. Among other powers necessary to be surrendered was that of issuing bills of credit or making paper money. Many of the States were then and had long been exercising this power (an attribute of sovereignty) : but because no State or Nation can give legal tender functions valid in any other State or Nation, hence the money of no State was money in any other State, and, therefore, the money of each State was subject to ruinous discounts in all other States, causing great loss to the people, and seriously embarrassing trade and commerce between the States. This was the financial condition at the time of the adoption of the Constitution : and, in order to remedy this evil, the States consented to surrender the power of issuing bills of credit or giving legal tender functions to paper which could only be money in their several jurisdictions, and delegated the power to Congress, in order that Congress, being thus invested with the power of all the States, might be enabled to give legal tender functions to paper valid throughout all the States. It is manifest that the power surrendered by the States was the power of issuing bills of credit or making money of paper. It is also equally manifest that the power delegated to Congress was, mainly and primarily, the power to make money of paper—money alone—invested with all the legal tender functions of money, and not any mere currency or hybrid substitute for money, deprived of a part of the functions and uses of money. Such creations are not money, in a true constitutional sense, nor in common sense, no more than a wagon deprived of a part of its wheels would be a wagon.

Having thus shown what money is, how and for what purposes money is made or coined, and why this power was delegated to Congress, so plainly, we apprehend, that no man of common sense could scarcely be deceived, we will now proceed to show how our national legislators and public servants, by treasonable usurpations of power not delegated, have so perverted and prostituted this sacred trust as to make it a means of robbing the people and enslaving them to corporations and favored persons and classes.

The first notable fact is that they have persistently refused to execute this most important trust and power to the extent and in manner and form for the purposes for which the power was delegated, viz., of making or coining a sufficient amount of paper money of uniform value with gold and silver coins, and to supplement the inadequate amount thereof, to supply the necessities of the people for the payment of labor, debts and taxes and the exchanges of commerce. And we now assert that this, in connection with, and as auxiliary to, the power of making money of gold and silver, is the identical, specific

and limited power delegated to Congress. It is these functions of legal tender (not a part, but all of them,) which make money of any material ; and no material, not even gold and silver coins, becomes money until these legal tender functions are conferred upon them by law. Hence, we might mint or stamp all the gold and silver in the world with the insignia or legends of money and yet not have a dollar in money ; and so we might print or engrave all the paper in the world in the form of money, without investing it with the functions of legal tender, and yet not have a dollar in paper money ; but having thus suitably prepared any one or all of these materials for use as money, then the law or decree of the sovereign power conferring upon the material or materials so prepared the functions of legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private, makes them money, and, as such, will be of uniform value for all purposes for which money is used. If proof were necessary we have only to refer to the demand notes which remained equal with gold and silver coins throughout the war, and also to our present green-back money, which immediately rose to par the moment John Sherman, even without the authority of law, ordered them to be received in the payment of "import duties and interest on the public debt," which practically made them a full legal tender.

The foregoing truths are so well known by every intelligent man we submit them as conclusive without any theoretical argument.

But how have our legislators and public servants used this high trust and power ? Instead of creating a full legal tender paper money of uniform value with gold and silver money, and to supplement the inadequate amount thereof, to supply the necessities of the people for the payment of labor, debts and taxes and the exchanges of commerce—the true intent and purposes for which the power was delegated—and, instead of issuing this money for the common benefit direct from the treasury of the people, assuming and usurping powers not delegated, they have created banking corporations, without a shadow of constitutional authority, and have perverted and prostituted the power to make money of paper by the creation of hundreds of millions of dollars of national bank notes—a paper substitute for money totally unknown to the Constitution and unauthorized by it—which they have donated and transferred to these illegitimate, bastard corporations with the power and profits of issue : they have authorized these corporations to loan or issue these substitutes for money to the people at high and ruinous rates of interest, and, through agents, to take mortgages on their most valuable properties to secure payment in lawful money, and permitted the courts of the country to enforce them as lawful contracts ; they have exempted these substitutes for money from all taxation, thus increasing the burdens of the people ; they have empowered these corporations to contract or expand the volume of these substitutes for money at discretion, thereby enabling them to control the value of property and the wages of labor for speculative purposes ; they have chartered thousands of these corporations and located them in all parts of the country, with

the power to plunder the people of interest or usury ; they have even permitted alien enemies—the companies and syndicates of European Monarchies, glutted with the spoils of the impoverished laboring and producing classes of those countries and the isles of the sea by like methods, to establish agencies throughout our country advertising "MONEY TO LOAN," like ravens croaking for their prey. Whither are we drifting ? Look to your ballots, O. ye oppressed and enslaved people !

But these are only a part of the method through which, for more than twenty-five years, our treasonable legislators and public servants have been robbing, oppressing and enslaving the people through their usurpations and perversions of power to coin money. They have created thousands of millions of dollars of another substitute for money—the old greenback currency—and instead of making it a legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private, they, with the wicked and felonious intent of causing its depreciation, deprived it of the functions of paying "import duties and interest on the public debt"; and when, by this means, it had been depreciated to less than fifty cents on the dollar, thus nearly doubling the expenses of the war, then, by their Satanic funding and re-funding laws tempted the wealthy bankers, speculators and money changers to buy it up at less than half price and fund it into interest-bearing bonds, at par, freed from all taxation. Thus the people were robbed of about fourteen hundred millions of dollars by depreciation alone, which was an absolute gift in the bonds of the people to these bankers and other usurers, and which, with the interest already accrued, amounts to three thousand millions of dollars. Reader, these are the foundation for our interest-bearing national debt. It is based on a robbery of the people of this currency through the forms of law, and which, although unconstitutionally created through the usurpations and perjury of your public servants, yet as a substitute for money, such as it was, was an absolute necessity in the channels of trade and commerce; but by reason of their refusal to make it a full legal tender, as their oaths to support the Constitution and to legislate for the general welfare required them to do, it was depreciated; and there never was an hour during or since the war that a law of ten lines or less, making it a legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private, would instantly have restored it to par with gold and silver coins, like the demand notes, and like it is at present. Then all this grand legal robbery, and all this infamous debt, and all the billions of interest and principal paid on it and the billions yet to be paid, would have been saved to the people, besides all the consequential damages, resulting from the destruction of this currency, that swept over the country from 1873 to 1878 by depriving the mercantile, manufacturing, farming and industrial classes of the means of paying their debts and taxes. During this short period more than forty thousand merchants were forced into bankruptcy occasioned by the destruction of this currency converted into bonds; nearly all manufactories were shut up or forced into bankruptcy;

farmers could not sell their products to pay for labor, debts and taxes : more than a million of men were discharged from labor and tramped over the country seeking employment but finding none ; and a universal gloom overspread the land like the black pall of death. Then it was that the bankers and other usurers to whom bonds were given in exchange for this currency, and holding a monopoly of gold, silver and bank note currency, emerged from their dens of usury and began to foreclose their mortgages ; the goods of bankrupt merchants were sold for a pittance ; more than a hundred thousand happy homes passed into the hands of bankers and other usurers, while the wails of thousand of starving women and children were often heard.

Reader, will you say that we have overdrawn this frightful picture ? It is not so. The half is not told, and no pen of man nor angel can ever fully disclose the horrid reality.

And all—all ! because our legislators and public servants refused to confer the functions of legal tender on this currency, instead of robbing the people of it by converting it into an interest-bearing national debt for the benefit of bankers and usurers.

Was it a mistake ? Was it done in ignorance ? No, no ! It was done in the execution of a deep-laid conspiracy between the minions of European Monarchy and our own bankers and public servants to enslave the people through the control of money. This devilish conspiracy is clearly outlined in the infamous

#### HAZARD CIRCULAR.

“confidentially” addressed to the bankers and capitalists of our country. It said :

“The confederacy is likely to be overthrown by the war power and (chattel) slavery destroyed.”

“This I and my European friends are in favor of, for (chattel) slavery is but the ownership of labor, and carries with it the care for the laborers ; while the European plan, led on by England, is capital control of labor by controlling wages. This can be done by controlling the money.”

“The great debt that capitalists will see to is made out of the war must be used as a measure to control the volume of money.”

“To accomplish this the bonds must be used as a banking basis. We are waiting to get the Secretary of the Treasury to make the recommendation to Congress.”

“It will not do to allow the greenbacks to circulate any length of time, for we cannot control them.”

We here present the outlines of the great conspiracy of the tools and emissaries of Monarchy for enslaving the disinherited laboring and producing classes of our country through the control of money. The history of the financial legislation of our country, only a part of which we have detailed, shows how well and faithfully our treacherous legislators and public servants, with the instincts of the dragon power of Monarchy, have executed its behests. We doubt if Satan himself could improve upon them.

But let us further briefly glance at subsequent legislation tending to further enslave labor through the control of money. In 1869 the bonds then existing, chiefly payable after five years in any lawful money, was falsely declared by the so-called "credit strengthening" act, to be payable in coin, and in 1870, and subsequently, this falsehood was made monumental in the fraudulent re-funding laws by which new bonds were issued in lieu of the old, and made payable in gold and silver coins nine-tenths fine after fifteen, twenty-five and thirty-five years. In 1873 silver was slyly and fraudulently demonetized, leaving only gold for the payment of the new bonds. In 1875 the so-called resumption act was passed having in view the final destruction of the greenbacks which the conspirators could not control : but the would-be destroyers—your faithless public servants—could not "screw up their courage to the sticking point"; and in 1878, quailing beneath the frowns of an outraged people, were compelled to desist in their wicked purpose and stop their destruction : and in 1879 the exigencies of the resumption act—the weapon whetted and prepared for their destruction—compelled the notorious John Sherman, then Secretary of the Treasury, without even the authority of law, to order that they should be received in the payment of "import duties and interest on the public debt," which practically made them a legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private; and since which time, crowned with honor, they ride triumphant over both gold and silver coins—the idol of fools and the tool of knaves.

But, reader, the bankers, bondholders, speculators and usurers of every class have ever sought to accomplish their destruction, for they cannot control them, as the Hazard circular says. And while they exist they do not deem their dominion complete over land, over money, over labor, over commerce and over the liberties of the people ; and so, ever since, by some inscrutable means, they have secured the recommendations of your highest executive officers in some form, urging this act of treason. But they (your national legislators), fearing your indignation, have as yet refused to strike the murderous blow. But although they fear to do this, yet their laws through which you are plundered of hundreds of millions of dollars by onerous taxation and hoarded in your national treasury stands unrepealed, and they seem to regard with indifference, if not approval, the acts of your executive public servants, who, under various false pretenses, instead of paying your bonded debt, are holding vast amounts of it in your national treasury : while, for the want of it in the channels of trade and commerce, your merchants, farmers and other industrial classes are being forced into bankruptcy and ruin.

Fellow-citizens ! Your treasonable legislators and public servants are properly responsible for all these evils. You have given them no constitutional authority for the enactment of these treasonable robber laws. How long will you permit these tools and emissaries of Monarchy to pollute your halls of legislation, rob you of your sovereignty and liberties and enslave you to corporations and favored classes ?

You must unite in the election of public servants who will repeal these robber laws and restore to you your equal rights in your national or common properties.

—o—

## CHAPTER VII. OUR PUBLIC DEBT.

The creation of interest-bearing public debts, to which we have incidentally alluded in the previous chapter under the head of "Our Money," is one of the insidious methods by which the Satanic spirit of Monarchy, through its tools and emissaries, prosecutes its warfare against the principles of true Republicanism and enslaves the many for the benefit of the few. This nefarious scheme or method was put in operation by our legislators and public servants by perverting the power delegated to Congress—

"To borrow money on the credit of the United States."

With this preliminary statement we will now proceed to examine the nature and extent of this power; the purposes for which the power was delegated; the limitations to the power, if any; and how the power has been used and perverted.

Apparently, but only apparently, it seems to be an unlimited power, which may be exercised by our legislators and public servants at discretion. But *discretionary* power, vested in public servants, is utterly incompatible with the existence of a true Republican government under a written constitution. A constitution, in its true sense, is simply a power of attorney, as it were, executed by the sovereign people delegating power or authority to their public servants to do certain things for certain purposes. Hence, all grants of power, as to their extent, must be interpreted in subordination to and in harmony with the objects or purposes for which the power was delegated. What, then, was the purpose for which the people delegated power to their agents or public servants to "borrow money"? and what are the limitations to this power, if any? There can be no doubt that the purpose was, in the event of some great emergency, when all other resources failed, to enable Congress to provide for the common defence and maintain the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people forever: or, as the fathers expressed it, "to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity;" these being the purposes for which all powers were delegated; and, of course, the power to borrow money was and is limited to these cardinal or primary purposes, and can, under no circumstances, be so used or perverted as to enslave one class of the people for the benefit of another class. It is not only thus limited by general principles, but is otherwise limited by the literal meaning of the words used in the grant of the power to borrow money—**MONEY** alone—and not any semblance of or substitute for money.

And now the question arises, how and for what purposes have our legislators and public servants used this grant of power? We aver that, assuming and usurping the sovereign powers of the people not

delegated, they have, with the criminal intent to wrong, defraud and enslave the people, created a semblance or substitute for money—the old greenback currency—deprived of a part of the functions of money, viz., of paying “import duties and interest on the public debt”; and when from this cause it had been depreciated to less than half its nominal value, nearly doubling the cost of the war; and when, before and after the close of the war, there was not a shadow of necessity for borrowing money, they provided by law for receiving this depreciated currency from wealthy bankers, speculators and money changers as being *money borrowed*, and for funding it, at par, into interest-bearing bonds freed from all taxation: and that afterwards, in their so-called “credit strengthening” law of 1869, falsely declaring the bonds thus issued in exchange for this depreciated substitute for money were payable in coin, in 1870 and afterwards, by their several infamous re-funding laws, made this falsehood monumental in our existing public debt by cancelling the old and issuing new bonds in their stead, made payable in gold and silver coins nine-tenths fine after fifteen, twenty-five and thirty-five years. We aver that this is a plain statement, without any exaggeration, of the methods through which our monstrous interest-bearing debt was created, and upon which our mercantile, farming and other industrial classes have paid more than five thousand millions of dollars, with billions more to be paid, and which our traitorous public servants, claiming to be Democrats and Republicans, have ever since denominated “sacred coin contracts.”

It had its origin, first, in a gross perversion of the power to coin money, as shown in our last chapter: and, second, in a prostitution of the power to borrow money, as herein stated. It was created to the extent of one-half or about fourteen hundred millions of dollars (being the amount of the depreciation of this currency), without any valuable consideration, and which was an absolute donation to these bankers and speculators in the bonds of the people. The thing borrowed, or pretended to be borrowed, was not money as authorized by the Constitution; nor was it borrowed for the purposes for which the power was delegated. It is simply a black monument of crime based upon usurpations, treasons and perjuries, its column constructed of robberies and its capstone set in frauds. It is the outgrowth of the great conspiracy between the minions of European Monarchy and its tools and emissaries in our own country to plunder and enslave the people through the control of money.

If the reader will turn back and read again the infamous

HAZARD CIRCULAR,

“confidentially” addressed to our bankers and capitalists, outlining this great conspiracy, he will at once realize how well our legislators and public servants have executed it. What shall be done with this debt? (See the Sovereign People’s Platform and Constitutional Amendment.)

## CHAPTER VIII.

### OUR PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

All railway and telegraphic lines of communication and commerce constitute a part of the national or common properties belonging to the sovereign people by the fundamental principles of Republicanism. But of these, too, with vast amounts of our public domain, money and credit, our treasonable legislators, through gross usurpations of powers not delegated or perversions of delegated power, have robbed the people, and transferred the control and usufructs thereof to corporations and favored classes. We will now examine by what authority and under what pretexts this has been done.

Our Constitution provides in section 3 of article IV. that—

“Congress shall have power to dispose of \* \* \* the territory and other property belonging to the United States.”

To give a color of authority for their notorious abuse of this trust and power, our legislators have falsely assumed that the power “to dispose of” these properties invested them with the whole sovereign power of the people—to sell, give and alienate them at discretion. And so, in accordance with this monstrous assumption, insolently arrogating all the powers of absolute Monarchs, they have robbed the people of their public highways and transferred the ownership and control of this property to their bastard corporations which they have created without a shadow of constitutional authority. As we have hereinbefore shown that the power “to dispose of” these properties confers no such absolute power as thus assumed, neither by the literal meaning of the term “to dispose of” nor the purposes for which the power was delegated, we will not here repeat the argument. But the fact stands out in bold relief that our legislators and public servants, assuming and usurping absolute sovereign powers over the lands, the money and public highways, have transferred them to corporations and favored classes, and which, thus being invested with a monopoly of them, are wresting from the disinherited millions a great share of the products and profits of their labor for their use, precisely as do the lords, barons and favored classes in Monarchies. Is this a Republic, except in name?

Under the operation of these unconstitutional robber laws more than one-half of the entire wealth of our country has been wrested from the people and transferred to these corporations and favored classes, mainly exempted from all taxation, while far the larger part of the remainder is under mortgage to these and other usurers. More than forty millions of our people have been disinherited of their God-given equal rights in their lands and other national properties, and become as aliens and outcasts in the land of their fathers, while far the larger part of the remainder yet permitted to occupy their homes under mortgages, are practically mere tenants at will, and being pressed down by onerous taxation and paying exorbitant interest to bankers and other usurers for the use of money, and ruinous tribute

on their commerce to the monopolizers of their public highways, are fast sinking beneath their burdens and becoming mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to the monopolizers of their sovereign properties. Is this a Republic, recognizing the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people—a refuge for the oppressed of all nations? Nay, verily! It has become an oligarchy of land lords, money lords and lords of our public highways, plundering the industrial and producing classes of a great share of the profits of their labor; while their legislators and public servants, having treasonably placed them in power, now casting aside all allegiance to the sovereign people, have become submissive tools in the enactment of laws to protect them in their so-called "vested rights" in these stolen properties. And, to crown their infamy, now, when the farming, laboring and other industrial classes, slowly opening their eyes to their oppressed condition, are beginning to form associations for resisting the oppressions of these millionaire monopolists, their insolent public servants joining their voices with the receivers of these stolen properties, denounce them as socialists and communists. It is absolutely amazing that these grand robbers of the people, who, through the forms of law within the short space of thirty years, have plundered them of more than one-half the wealth of our country—more than thirty billions of dollars worth—and who might successfully claim pre-eminence over the kings of the earth and their hireling hosts as to the success and extent of their robberies, should even dare to speak the word communist! But it is only the cry of the thief to "stop thief!" hoping to deceive or bulldoze the people. Let the oppressed farming and industrial classes regard them not, but hurl back the epithets in their brazen faces, and move forward in strengthening their organizations and uniting their voices in the election of public servants who will repeal these robber laws and restore these properties to the people to be used for the common benefit.

—o—

## CHAPTER IX. A GENERAL SUMMING UP,

SUGGESTING THE NECESSARY MEASURES FOR THE RESUMPTION BY THE  
PEOPLE OF THEIR SOVEREIGN PROPERTIES WITHOUT INJURY TO  
ANY ONE, AND FOR CHAINING THE DRAGON POWER OF MON-  
ARCHY AND MONOPOLY.

Having seen that in a Republican government, recognizing the equal rights and sovereignty of the people, the lands, the money and public highways are national or common properties belonging to the sovereign people, and, as such, are constitutionally inalienable except by distribution in equal shares or benefits, without destroying the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people; and that whoever (any one or class of citizens), by whatever means, whether by brute force or through the forms of law, can or may acquire the ownership and control of these properties thereby acquires the elements

of sovereignty and the power of enslaving the people for their necessary use in the support of life and existence ; and having exposed the methods by which this has been accomplished, we are prepared to consider the measures necessary to arrest the operations of the tools and emissaries of Monarchy in undermining and destroying our Republic, in the resumption by the people of their equal rights in these properties, and by limiting and restraining the operation of these destructive methods in the future.

In a Republic, as ours, the “ voice of the people is the voice of God,” so far as relates to their political condition. God has so decreed it. When the children of Israel demanded a king God gave them one in His anger. And so, according to the laws of His providence, any Republican people willing to have a king—willing to let one man or the few lord it over them—all they need to do is to supinely permit their legislators and public servants to rob them of their common properties and it is accomplished. But if they would maintain their sovereignty and liberties they must resume and maintain their equal rights in their sovereign properties. It is therefore manifest that in adopting measures for this purpose the first great object must be to agree upon such measures as will combine and unite the voice of the people, to the greatest extent possible, in the election of legislators and public servants to accomplish the purpose ; and that, in order to secure the election of such legislators, the measures proposed and advocated by them must be of such character as will inflict no injustice or real injury on any class of their fellow-citizens. As, for instance, for the restoration to the people of their equal rights and benefits in their money, which, being created through the exercise of their co-operative or sovereign power, rightfully belongs to them, the measure to be adopted is simply the repeal of the national bank acts which unjustly and unconstitutionally invests these corporations with the control of money and the profits of issue. The repeal of these laws will do no real injustice, even to the bankers themselves ; for it is simply the withdrawal of special privileges which Congress had no constitutional authority to grant. The same is true of the laws creating railway, telegraphic or other corporations now monopolizing the public highways of the country. These properties rightfully belong to the people by the fundamental principles of our government. No actual title to these properties has ever been passed. At most, nothing more than a conditional lease or privilege to construct and operate them for a term of years, primarily for the common benefit, has ever been given ; and the conditions, expressed or implied, upon which this privilege was granted, has been continuously violated. Instead of being operated for the common benefit, by reasonable rates and charges on actual investments, the lessees have, by extortionate charges on watered or bogus stock, discriminations in freights and fares and other abuses of privilege, converted them into great instrumentalities for robbing the many for the benefit of the few. Even admitting the grants were constitutional (which we do not admit, but have proven not true), they have by these abuses be-

come equitably and legally subject to forfeiture ; and for which abuses, viewed even as contracts between citizens, there is not a court in Christendom that would not annul them on the petition and complaint of the lessor. Hence, all laws creating such corporations should be repealed, and these properties be restored to the people and be operated for the common benefit. And in view of the flagrant violation of the conditions upon which their privileges were granted, it is questionable whether, in law or justice, they are entitled to any compensation ; but in any view, the most strained considerations of equity would only require that private capital actually invested in their construction and equipment, not including profits of use, and deducting the value realized of all donations by the government, should be refunded.

In avoidance, however, of the manifest necessity and justice of restoring these properties to the people, we have many politicians—sham Democrats and sham Republicans, and in a few cases men claiming to be reformers—advocating the legislative control of corporations. This is generally a mere pretense to deceive and mislead the people, while leaving the corporations in possession to fleece them at pleasure. The only way to control these corporations is to destroy them. They have no constitutional right to existence. They are bastards and intruders, illegitimately begotten and thrust into the household and given the inheritance of the legitimate heirs by our faithless public servants. They must be thrust out, especially those which have been placed in control of the national or sovereign properties of the people. And many others, as they now exist under present laws, are but little better.

Thus, having shown that the legislation necessary to restore to the people their equal rights in their money and public highways, consists simply in the repeal of the unconstitutional laws creating the banking, railway and telegraphic corporations and transferring to them the control and usufructs of these properties which rightfully belong to the people ; and having shown that the repeal of these laws will do no real injustice to any class of our fellow-citizens—that it is simply the withdrawal of unequal and special privileges that never should have been granted, and which our legislators had no constitutional power to grant—there is no reason why it should not be done. It must be done.

But the principles and equities which underlie the ownership of land are greatly different. Titles to this property have been granted under all the forms of perpetual covenants, and although not strictly constitutional, yet for ages they have been recognized as valid titles by every class of our people, subject only to taxation. They have thus entered into all the ramifications of society, and almost every citizen has bought and sold under them. How, then, can this property be restored to the people in comparatively equal shares or benefits without destroying existing titles and cause no real injury to any class of our fellow-citizens, and so secure the general approval ? We never can hope to unite the people in the election of legislators if the

measures proposed will inflict real injury upon any considerable class and thus provoke their active opposition. Besides, it would be an act of the greatest injustice, now that vast numbers of our fellow-citizens have invested their money in this property in good faith, even though they have acquired an undue share of it, for a mere majority of the people (even if a majority could be secured, which we believe can never be done,) to adopt any extreme or radical measures by which such citizens would be made to suffer great loss. Such measures would be but little better than actual violence, and would probably provoke it. As, for instance, we have some well meaning reformers, seeing the fearful evils of the growing land monopoly, advocating a graded land tax, in which some of the higher grades proposed would be equivalent to or even worse than actual confiscation. Another class, claiming to be reformers, have even proposed the destruction of all existing titles, with some system of distribution and tenure based upon use or occupancy, utterly impracticable and in conflict with the universal desire of every citizen to own their homes in sev-erality by absolute titles. It is needless to say the voice and will of the people can never be united on any such measure. And still another class propose levying all taxation for the support of the governmen on land values ; that is to say : make the gifts of God for the common benefit bear all the burdens of government. We maintain we have no right to say to any citizen that before receiving the inheritance that God has bestowed upon you, you shall agree to bear all the burdens of government. On the contrary, we hold that land, being the creation and gift of God for the common benefit, should be free to all in equal shares, and to a limited extent, approximating as near as possible equal ownership, should be exempt from all taxation. We believe this principle to be correct, and, in connection with other legislative measures, can be made the means for restoring to the people and maintaining approximate equal rights in this God-given heritage.

But the question is still unanswered : How can the people recover or be restored to comparatively equal rights in the land without disturbing existing titles or doing any real injury to any class of citizens ? This is the real problem. We confidently answer that this can be done by shielding or exempting the homestead of every citizen (no exceptions), actually owned by him or her, and used as such, to the extent of five hundred dollars, and not exceeding one thousand dollars, from all taxation, and all other exemptions be repealed. Every man of common intelligence can at once see that such a system would stimulate to the utmost all worthy, industrious citizens in our government who have been plundered and disinherited under the operation of the existing robber laws which we have exposed, to acquire homes of their own free from all taxation. It would at once stimulate industry to the utmost, and open a door of hope—a window in heaven, as it were—to our disinherited and enslaved brothers and sisters. It would soon cover our whole land with an independent yeomanry devoted to the government and willing to shed their blood in its defence and in defence of their homes and firesides, against the combined

powers of Monarchy. But would not the operation of such a system work an injury to other citizens? It would, perhaps, to a slight extent, increase taxation on lands held in excess, and dispose monopolists to sell, not at a loss but at a profit, by reason of the increased demand in the purchase of homes. In a few short years the land monopoly would melt away like the noxious vapors of the night in the rays of the morning sun, and no citizen would be really injured but all be benefited. But as a further aid to our disinherited fellow-citizens in acquiring homes of their own, to which they are entitled by all just laws, as well as to destroy the accursed system of excessive interest and usury for money, condemned alike by God, His prophets and all true Christians, the people should require their national legislators to create a sufficient amount of money with a bureau of government loans, and place it in charge of a secretary to be styled "The General Commissioner of Loans," and make it his duty to appoint agents or sub-commissioners in every county seat and important town throughout the United States (somewhat similar to the methods now pursued by our domestic and foreign loaning companies), to receive applications for loans by citizens not owning any land, to aid them in the purchase of homes, at about 3 per cent. interest per annum, on long periods of time, and also to aid citizens, to a limited extent, in redeeming their homes from liens and mortgages and paying excessive interest to bankers and other usurers now absorbing the profits and growing wealthy from the labor of borrowers. In all such cases a deed to the government in trust of the land so purchased or redeemed—say at two-thirds of a fair valuation—should be deemed sufficient to secure the payment of the loan and interest. And in connection with these measures a limitation to the acquisition of land should be established, not too restricted, but sufficiently large to give reasonable scope to the spirit of acquisition existing in all men, but sufficiently limited to curb and restrain the spirit of Monarchy, which ever seeks to monopolize the national or common properties of the people and enslave them for their use.

The inauguration of these measures is the only peaceful solution of the land monopoly problem which can ever sufficiently unite the general voice of the people to secure their adoption. We are, nevertheless, aware that these measures, however plain, simple and practicable they are, may be abused and perverted by our legislators and public servants if not restrained. Hence, they are particularly presented in the Sovereign People's Political Platform as a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution. We have outlined them here in order to show that they are eminently practicable, and that their adoption will cause no real injustice to any class of our fellow-citizens.

And now, dear reader, we have presented to you the outlines of a government of the people, by the people and for the general welfare of the whole people—a true Republican government, recognizing a common brotherhood of equal rights in our national or sovereign properties, with the measures for their recovery by the people, more

clearly exhibited in the Sovereign People's Platform and in the sixteenth amendment of the Constitution demanded in connection therewith, showing the proper methods for the resumption of these properties by the people, and of forever limiting and restraining their legislators and public servants from robbing them of them and transferring them to corporations and favored classes ; through the ownership and control of which they are enabled to enslave them for their use, as in Monarchies.

It presents to view that happy condition foreseen by the prophets of old to occur in the "latter days," when every citizen will be permitted to enjoy the fruits of their labor under their own vine and fig tree, with none to molest or make them afraid. It coincides with the chaining of the dragon—the bloody dragon power of Monarchy and monopoly ; with the overthrow of the dominion of Satan in the kingdoms of the world ; with the time when the God of heaven shall set up a kingdom (a sovereignty of the people) that shall never be destroyed, but which shall break in pieces and consume all kingdoms and stand forever ; to the time when He shall possess the kingdoms whose right it is to reign ; to the revelation of that for which Christians have prayed for eighteen hundred years : "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven."

"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings. saying : Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." Rev. 16-6. This is the jubilant shout that will be heard on earth when the people shall recover or be restored to their equal rights in their land, their money and public highways, and their legislators restrained from robbing them of them.

The author is well aware, however, that the members and beneficiaries of the banking corporations now controlling the money and taxing the people from 10 to 50 per cent. per annum for its use, with few exceptions, will oppose and resist the withdrawal of their special privileges ; that the members and beneficiaries of railway and telegraphic corporations, with, perhaps, a few honorable exceptions, will oppose the repeal of the unconstitutional laws creating them, and the withdrawal of their special privilege of plundering the people at discretion ; that the bondholders will resist the payment of their fraudulent and unconstitutional bonds, and thus relieve the people from the payment of interest to them ; that the usurers of every hue and class will oppose the system of government loans to the disinherited classes at a low rate of interest in the purchase of homes, and thus destroy their power to live on the labor of borrowers ; that the land monopolists, to a considerable extent, now owning large bodies of the lands rightfully belonging to the people, will oppose the exemption of the homestead from taxation, and thus destroy their power of realizing excessive profits and rents ; and that every sham Democrat and Republican legislator who has wilfully given his vote to rob the people of their equal rights in their lands, their money and public highways and transferred them to corporations and favored classes, will

oppose any measure, however reasonable, conservative and just, for restoring to the people their equal rights in these sovereign properties, and for limiting and restraining their power of robbing them in the future. Indeed, all the agents, tools and emissaries of Monarchy—all their great hireling newspapers and brawling politicians—will oppose and ridicule such measures as fanatic, utopian and impracticable. But the disinherited, oppressed industrial and producing classes who have been and are yet being robbed, plundered and enslaved, must move forward, undismayed, in strengthening their organizations and uniting their voices in the election of public servants who will repeal these robber laws and restore these properties to the people; ever bearing in mind the words of the Lord unto His servant Zerubbabel when rebuilding the temple: “Not by might or by power (violence), but by my spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.” Zach., iv. 6.

As to this little book, notwithstanding all the criticisms and denunciations that may be hurled against it, it will live and be read when all its critics have passed beyond that “bourne whence no traveler returns.” The truths and principles enunciated will continue to spread and fructify the great heart of humanity until the measures advocated shall be accomplished.



## CHAPTER X.

### THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE'S POLITICAL PLATFORM AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Whereas, in a Republican government based upon and recognizing the equal rights and sovereignty of the people, the land, with all the elements of nature, by the creation and gift of God for the common benefit, with the money created through the exercise of their sovereign power, and the public highways of communication and commerce, are national or sovereign properties which belong to the sovereign people, and as such are fundamentally and constitutionally inalienable, except by distribution in equal shares or benefits without destroying the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people; and whereas, our legislators, to whom these properties were entrusted for equal distribution among the people for the common benefit, have assumed or usurped the power of creating banking, railway and telegraphic corporations and other favored classes, and have transferred to them the ownership and control of these properties in vast amounts and unequal shares or benefits;

We therefore declare all such legislation to be without constitutional sanction, the most pernicious class legislation, destructive to the fundamental principles of our government, and but little less culpable than overt acts of treason against the sovereignty, equal rights and liberties of the people. We therefore demand the repeal of all such laws, and that our legislators and public servants, in their future administration and disposition of these properties, shall conform themselves to the following methods: First; as concerning

## OUR LANDS.

We declare the public lands to be national or sovereign properties belonging to the sovereign people, and demand that they shall be held or reserved for homestead purposes alone, and be distributed to actual citizen settlers thereon not owning or claiming any other lands, in tracts not exceeding 160 acres, and to be granted only after three years actual residence and the erection of comfortable homestead improvements thereon, and strictly prohibiting, under penalty of forfeiture, all sales to persons or citizens owning other lands until these conditions shall have been complied with. We further demand that all conditional grants of our public domain to individuals, companies or corporations, wherein the conditions have not been strictly complied with according to the terms of the grant, shall promptly by law be declared forfeited, and be restored to our public domain for homestead purposes alone. We further most emphatically condemn all laws, usages or customs through which aliens, not owing allegiance to our government, have been permitted to acquire recognized ownership of vast amounts of the lands of our country or controlling interests in any of our sovereign properties, and demand that our legislators, State and national, shall promptly, by appropriate legislation, arrest all future acquisition and control of such properties, public and private. And whereas a frightful monopoly of the lands of our country is being rapidly increased under existing laws in the control of individuals and corporations, we therefore demand, as a means for arresting the increase of such monopoly and restoring to the people approximate equal shares in this property, that the actual homestead of every citizen, without any exceptions, owned by him or her and occupied as such, to the extent of five hundred dollars and not exceeding one thousand dollars, shall be relieved from all taxation except for common school purposes; and that all other exemptions of this or other property shall be repealed. We also demand that, as a further measure for destroying the increasing monopoly of land, and the accursed system of exorbitant interest and usury fostered by existing laws, Congress shall provide for loaning money to citizens not owning any land, in the purchase of homes at a low rate of interest on long periods of time, substantially as demanded in the constitutional amendment hereinafter submitted as a part of this platform; and that a reasonable limitation to the acquisition of land shall be established. And second; as concerning

## OUR MONEY.

We declare that money, being created through the exercise of our sovereign power, belongs to us, the sovereign people, by right of creation as well as by right of sovereignty, and that all profits and benefits arising from its creation and issue rightfully inures to the common benefit. We further declare that the power "To coin money," as delegated to Congress, is the power to make or create money by conferring on any suitable substance or material, when properly prepared for use as money, the functions of legal tender in the payment

of all taxes and all debts, public and private. And whereas our public servants in Congress have assumed or usurped our sovereign power not delegated of creating bank notes, silver certificates and other unconstitutional substitutes for money, and from this cause liable to fluctuations in value, causing great loss to the people, as in the case of silver coins when demonetized, and the old greenback currency by being deprived of a part of the functions of money; we therefore declare that all such acts are the most shameful abuses of the high trust and power conferred upon them, and demand that they shall promptly by law provide for calling into our national treasury and destroying all such substitutes for money, and issue in lieu thereof paper money endowed with all the functions of legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private, to be issued direct from the national treasury by the officers thereof, and not by or through any individual or corporation for private or corporate benefit. And third; as concerning our

#### BANKING CORPORATIONS.

Whereas, our servants in Congress have assumed or usurped the power of creating banking corporations without a shadow of delegated authority; and instead of creating money for our common benefit, have created a vast amount of national bank notes, a substitute for money unknown to our Constitution and unauthorized by it, and have transferred them to these illegitimate banking corporations, with power to loan and issue them to the people, in lieu of money, at exorbitant rates of interest or usury, and have exempted such notes from taxation, with other vast powers, privileges and immunities whereby they are enabled, to a great extent, to control the volume of money and thereby the value of labor and all its productions; we therefore denounce all such legislation as treasonable usurpations of our sovereign powers not delegated, the most impious class legislation, monarchial in character, destructive to the equal rights and liberties of the people and enslaving the many for the benefit of the few, and therefore demand the prompt repeal of all laws creating such corporations, and that such bank notes be called into our national treasury and destroyed, and be substituted by a paper money invested by law with all the functions of legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private.

And whereas, in connection with this unconstitutional banking system, as a foundation therefor and a part thereof, our national legislators, through the abuse and perversion of the power "To coin money," by the creation of a substitute for money—the old greenback currency—deprived of a part of the functions and uses of money, thereby causing its depreciation; and afterwards, by a most heinous prostitution of the power "To borrow money," provided by law for receiving this depreciated *currency* from the bankers and other speculators who had purchased it at less than half its nominal value, as being "money borrowed," and caused it to be funded into a monstrous interest-bearing

## PUBLIC DEBT.

freed from all taxation; and afterwards, falsely declaring this pretended debt to be payable in gold and silver coins, did, in 1870 and afterwards, provide for re-funding this fraudulent debt so created into new bonds, extending the time of payment and making them specifically payable in gold and silver coins nine-tenths fine after long periods of time, whereby we, the people, have been plundered of more than five thousand millions of dollars in principal and interest paid to these bankers and bondholders, while nearly half this debt remains unpaid; we therefore denounce all the legislation by which this fraudulent debt was created as being the greatest robbery that was ever perpetrated on any people. But whereas the people, by the fourth section of the fourteenth amendment of our Constitution, ratified in 1868, recognized the validity of the debt as it then existed under the laws creating it, so, for this reason, we recognize the validity of the debt as it then existed, payable in lawful money after three, five and ten years; and as the whole of this debt has become due and payable under the original laws creating it, we therefore demand its prompt payment in any lawful money possessing full legal tender functions, at the rate of twenty-five millions of dollars per month, without regard to subsequent re-funding acts, which we declare to be fraudulent, unconstitutional and void. And fourth: as concerning our

## RAILWAY AND TELEGRAPHIC CORPORATIONS.

We declare that all railway and telegraphic lines of communication and commerce constitute public highways, and are national or sovereign properties rightfully belonging to us, the sovereign people: that neither we nor our fathers have given constitutional authority for their alienation to corporations; and whereas, our legislators and public servants have created railway and telegraphic corporations, and have transferred to them the practical ownership and control of these properties, with vast amounts of our public domain, money and credit, with other vast powers and privileges, used, primarily, for private or corporate benefit, creating millionaires and enslaving the people; we therefore denounce all such legislation as being impious robberies of the people, destructive to their equal rights and liberties, derogatory to their sovereignty, and treasonable in character, as being subversive of the fundamental principles of Republicanism: we therefore demand the prompt repeal of all laws creating such corporations, whether State or national, and that the practical and real ownership of these properties shall be restored to us, the sovereign people, and be maintained and operated for the common benefit. And whereas, by our Constitution of government we have delegated power to our servants in Congress "To dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other properties belonging to (the people of) the United States" for our common benefit, we therefore demand that they shall exercise the power thus conferred and promptly provide by law for taking absolute possession

of these properties : and, after providing for refunding to the incorporators or other citizens any real investments in their construction, not including watered stocks or the profits derived for their use, and deducting the realized value of all donations by the government, shall place all telegraphic lines under the charge of the Post-Office Department, and all railway lines under the charge of a Secretary or General Commissioner of Transportation, with such appropriate legislation for their management as may be necessary to secure to us, the sovereign people, the benefits thereof. And fifth ; as concerning our

#### CONSTITUTION AND SOVEREIGN PROPERTIES GENERALLY.

We again most emphatically declare that the land, with all natural elements, being the creation and gift of God for the common benefit : that money, being created through the exercise of our sovereign power ; and that all public highways of communication and commerce, whether natural or artificial, are national or sovereign properties which belong to us, the sovereign people, and, as such, our equal rights therein are inherent and constitutionally inalienable except by distribution in equal shares and benefits : that aliens can acquire no legal rights therein ; and that we have determined by peaceful and legitimate means to resume our constitutional and national rights in these properties without inflicting any real injustice on any class of our fellow-citizens : and we thus declare our sovereign will that our legislators and public servants shall govern themselves accordingly. And whereas, our legislators and public servants, State and Federal, legislative, executive and judicial, regardless of their trusts and their solemn obligations to support our Constitution of government according to its true intent and purposes, have, by usurpations, misconstructions and perversions of the powers as delegated, plundered us of our equal rights in these common or sovereign properties and transferred the practical ownership, control and usufructs thereof in vast amounts and unequal shares and benefits to corporations and favored classes ; and which, through the operation of such unjust and unconstitutional laws, are now plundering us of a great share of the products and profits of our daily labor ; we therefore imperatively demand that our public servants in Congress shall immediately, in manner and form as provided by our Constitution, submit to the States and people thereof, for ratification or rejection, without any material alteration, the following amendment to our Federal Constitution, more clearly defining and limiting their powers in the administration and management of our sovereign properties :

#### ARTICLE SIXTEEN.

SECTION 1. Whereas, the power "To dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other property belonging to the United States," as delegated to Congress by section 3 of article IV, of our national Constitution, has been falsely construed to confer power on our public servants in Congress to give, grant and alienate the ownership, control and usufructs of our national or common properties, consisting of the land, the money and public high-

ways of communication and commerce, to individuals or corporations at their discretion; such assumption or interpretation is hereby declared to be erroneous; and hereafter the term "To dispose of," as used in such grant of power, shall be understood to mean *only* the power to distribute these properties in equal shares and benefits to actual citizens, and to those declaring their intention to become such and taking the oath of allegiance to our government as prescribed by our naturalization laws. The word "territory" shall be understood to mean, primarily, our public lands; in respect to which the power so delegated shall be understood to mean *only* the power to grant this property equally, in tracts not exceeding 160 acres, after three years actual residence thereon, and the erection of comfortable home-stead improvements, and prohibiting, under the penalty of forfeiture, all sales to any citizen or company owning other lands until these conditions shall have been complied with.

SEC. 2. In order to check the growth of the monopoly of land, a limitation to the acquisition of land is hereby established; and, after the adoption of this amendment, no citizen or company owning six hundred and forty acres of land, not in a town or city, with more than four acres in the aggregate in a town or city of ten thousand inhabitants or less, or two acres in the aggregate in a town or city of more than ten thousand inhabitants, are hereby prohibited, under the penalty of forfeiture, from acquiring any other land in the United States; provided that a husband and wife having children, or either being dead, the survivor or head of the family may acquire in the name of and for the use of each child one hundred and sixty acres, not in a town or city, with one lot not exceeding one-half acre in a town or city, in addition to the limit prescribed in this section, and hold the same in trust until such child or children arrives at lawful age. No other acquisitions shall be made except on the petition of a citizen to a State legislature, recommended by a majority of the county and municipal authorities in which such land or lots may be situated. And to enforce this provision, every person taking title to any land in the United States shall make an affidavit before some officer authorized to administer oaths, duly certified on the conveyance as a part thereof, that the land or lots so taken are not in excess of the limitation herein prescribed. And no conveyance shall be received as evidence of title in any court in the United States unless such affidavit is duly certified thereon. And any false affidavit shall work a forfeiture of the title—one-half to the informer and one-half to the State—and subject the person making it to the pains and penalties of perjury. And all State legislatures may, in addition to regular taxation, levy a tax not exceeding one-half of 1 per cent. on all land and lots held in excess of the limitation prescribed in this section.

SEC. 3. As a further means to check the growth of the monopoly of land and to dissipate that now existing, the homestead of every citizen owned and occupied by him or her as such, to the extent of five hundred dollars in value, but not exceeding one thousand dollars, as may be determined by the several State legislatures, shall be ex-

empt from all taxation except for common school purposes. All other property, including money and all valid credits, whether represented by accounts, notes of hand, stocks or bonds in any company, whether in the possession of the person to be taxed, any member of his or her family or other person or company, shall be taxed at their reasonable value; and all legislative bodies levying direct taxes on property shall provide by law such measures as shall compel the rendition of all such property for taxation and adequate punishment for any failure or refusal to do so. The several State legislatures may also at their discretion require aliens holding titles to land in their several jurisdictions to sell them to actual citizens within a period of not less than ten years, and shall prohibit them from loaning money on land security.

SEC. 4. The phrase "other property belonging to the United States," as used in said section 3 of article IV., shall be understood to relate, primarily, to the money and public highways of communication and commerce as property belonging to the sovereign people of the United States. And as respecting money: The power "To coin money," as delegated to Congress by section 8 of article I. of our national Constitution, shall be understood to mean the power to make or create money. The execution of this power shall be understood to consist in the proper preparation, according to usual or improved methods, of paper, gold, silver or other suitable material for use as money, and by law providing that the material or materials when so prepared shall, to the extent of the nominal value printed, stamped or engraved thereon, be a legal tender in the payment of all taxes and debts, public and private; and which money shall be issued direct from our national treasury for value received, by the officers thereof, and not by or through any individual or corporation for private or corporate benefit. And Congress is prohibited from making any more currency or substitute for money not being endowed with all the legal tender functions of money, and from authorizing it to be done by any citizen or company. All State legislatures are likewise prohibited the use or delegation of such power.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of our servants in Congress at their first session after the adoption of this amendment, to provide by law for making and issuing an amount of money equal to and not exceeding fifty dollars per capita of the population of the United States according to the census next preceding its adoption, and to increase the amount annually in proportion to the increase of population, including all full legal tender money then in circulation, but not including bank notes or other substitutes for money. And Congress is hereby required to call into our national treasury and destroy all such currencies or substitutes for money, and issue in lieu thereof the money as authorized to be made by section 4 of this amendment. And which amount of money when so made and issued shall not thereafter be decreased by conversion into an interest-bearing public debt, demonetization or otherwise. And Congress is prohibited from the purchase of gold and silver bullion to be converted into money.

**SEC. 6.** The money authorized to be made and issued by sections 4 and 5 of this amendment shall be appropriated and issued for the following purposes :

First. To substitute bank notes and other currencies to be destroyed as required in the previous section, and to supplement any deficiency in the general revenues for the support of the government, not exceeding ten millions of dollars in any one year ; and

Second. For the prompt payment of the existing public debt at the rate of twenty-five millions of dollars per month, regardless of the so-called "credit strengthening" act of 1869 and the several acts providing for re-funding the debt and making it payable specifically in gold and silver coins and extending the time of payment ; all of which acts are hereby declared to be unconstitutional and void ; and

Third. For loaning to citizens not owning any land and desiring to purchase land for a homestead, in sums not exceeding two thousand dollars nor less than two hundred dollars, on periods of time not exceeding ten years nor less than three years, and at a rate of interest not exceeding three per cent. per annum. And for all such loans a conveyance in trust to the government of the land or lots, when fairly worth one-third more than the amount of the loan applied for, shall be deemed sufficient to secure the payment of the loan with the interest payable annually ; and also for loans to other citizens in debt for their homesteads, not exceeding the limitations herein prescribed, under lien or mortgage or subject to judicial sales and paying more than five per cent. interest per annum on their indebtedness. In all such cases where the loan, not exceeding two thousand dollars, will extinguish all indebtedness for which the property is legally liable, a conveyance in trust to the government of the land or lots, when fully worth one-third more than the amount of the loan sought, shall be deemed sufficient, with the interest to be paid annually, to secure the payment of such loans.

And in order to execute the purpose of loaning money to citizens as herein provided, Congress is hereby required, at its first session after the adoption of this amendment, to create a Bureau of Government Loans and place the same in charge of a secretary to be styled the General Commissioner of Loans, and make it his duty to apportion to the several States pro rata according to their respective populations, at least one thousand millions of dollars of the money required to be created by section 4, and from time to time as much of the remainder as may be required and not otherwise appropriated by the first and second paragraphs of this section : and also to appoint agents or sub-commissioners in every county seat and important town throughout the United States, on the petition of responsible citizens thereof, to receive applications for loans as herein provided and to recommend the same to the General Commissioner under such rules, regulations and instructions as he or Congress may deem necessary to secure the government against frauds and losses. And Congress shall enact efficient laws for the punishment of all frauds by the receivers of such loans and of all officers employed in this service.

**SEC. 7.** The power "To borrow money on the credit of the United States," as delegated to Congress by section 8 of article I. of our Constitution, is hereby revoked. But Congress shall have power, in the event of prolonged war imperilling the existence of the Republic, to increase the amount of money authorized to be made and issued by sections 4 and 5 of this amendment to one hundred dollars per capita of our population. But such amount of money, if so increased and used, shall not thereafter be diminished by being funded into an interest-bearing public debt, demonetization or otherwise. But Congress may, as a further resource in the event of prolonged wars, provide for receiving money on deposit and issuing certificates of indebtedness therefor, redeemable at pleasure, and bearing a rate of interest not exceeding five per cent. per annum.

**SEC. 8.** All railway and telegraphic lines of transportation and communication are hereby declared to be public highways and national properties belonging to the sovereign people of the United States. And Congress is hereby authorized and required, after the adoption of this amendment, to take actual possession and control thereof, and provide for refunding all private capital actually invested in their construction and equipment, not including watered stocks or profits derived from their use, and deducting the realized value of all donations by the States or national government; and place all telegraphic lines under the charge of the Postmaster-General and all railway lines in charge of a secretary of a bureau of transportation created for the purpose. And Congress shall enact all necessary laws for the maintenance and management of these properties for the common benefit, and for the punishment of all frauds and culpable mismanagement of this department of the public service. And Congress and all State legislatures are prohibited from investing any company or citizen with the control of any of our national or common properties for private benefit except as herein provided. And all courts, national or State, before entering on the duties of their office shall be specially sworn to enforce by their judgments or decrees the provisions and limitations of this amendment.

—o—

## CHAPTER XI.

### CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS.

We suppose that many objections will be urged by the banking, railway and other corporations now invested with the ownership, control and usufructs of the national or common properties of the people, against the measures demanded in the People's Platform and Constitutional Amendment. And among others an utterly senseless and groundless objection will possibly be urged as to centralization and monopoly of power in the hands of the government—of corruption and the inability of the government to manage these properties, with a "thousand and one" other nonsensical objections of politicians, party bosses and blatherskites. As to centralization and monopoly of power in the government, this is probably the most nonsensical of

all, although often made by the agents, attorneys and subsidized daily newspapers of the monopolists. We have always understood since we have learned our A, B, C's that centralization and monopoly consisted in the concentration of power and property in the control of the few, but when it is proposed to disperse power and the ownership of property in the hands of sixty millions of people, this is denounced as centralization and monopoly by these party bosses. Surely the men using such arguments are lunatics or knaves. Every man of common sense who will read the platform and amendment will plainly see that the object is to destroy monopolies—to decentralize—to limit and restrain our legislators and public servants from the use of the powers they have usurped and centralized in themselves—the power of plundering the people of their common properties, and giving a monopoly of them to corporations and favored classes—the true source of all monopolies. And as to corruption: The assumption of this power by our public servants opened wide the door to bribery and corruption. It was virtually a notice or advertisement to the world that they had the power to sell and alienate these properties like absolute sovereigns, and practically an invitation to bidders: Who will give us most or bribe us highest? And could the people see at one view the amount of bribes that have been paid and the corrupting influences that have been used to induce their legislators and public servants to plunder them of these properties they would be perfectly amazed. But by the amendment it is proposed to limit and restrain their public servants from transferring these properties to corporations and favored persons or classes, and so close the door of bribery forever. And unless this is done there can be no hope for redemption.

As to the incapacity of the people through their government to manage these properties, it is only necessary to point to the success of their control and management of the great postal system of the United States, involving the receipt and disbursement of more than a hundred million of dollars a year, and the management of many thousands of employees. We would like to be informed why a commissioner of transportation, with the aid of all necessary legislation, could not manage a railway as well as Jay Gould or any other man.

—o—

## THE GREAT SUIT.

### TRIAL FOR THE RIGHT OF PROPERTY.

THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE <i>vs.</i> THEIR PUBLIC SERVANTS ET AL.	} Suit Pending in their High Court of Sov- ereignty.
--	--

Forty millions of the rightful heirs and devisees of their fathers complaining of and against their legislators and public servants and certain others of their co-heirs, hereinafter specified, represent:

That in or about the year 1775 and for many years previous to said time, their fathers were the owners by natural right of all the

territory now known as the United States of America, having by their labor and toil redeemed it from its primeval, natural condition and making their homes therein and thereupon. That on or about said time, and for many years previous, one King George of England and his confederates, known as the Parliament of England, disputed the rightful claim of their fathers and wrongfully claimed a monopoly of the lands comprising said territory with the right to govern and tax them at discretion ; and to enforce their unjust claims committed many acts of tyranny, and so vexed and harrassed their fathers that they were compelled by force to resist their encroachments. Whereupon the said King George and his said confederates hired large armies and with swords, bayonets and other instruments of war, for many years endeavored by rapine and war to enforce their claims and subjugate and enslave their fathers ; but that they, by their heroism, blood and treasure in this behalf expended, finally expelled the armies of King George and his minions from said territory and secured the unquestioned right thereto, with all the rights and prerogatives of sovereignty ; and thereupon established a Republican government, recognizing the sovereignty of the people with equal rights of inheritance in their lands and other common properties ; and that, by their last will and testament, embodied in the Constitution of the United States, they bequeathed their said properties in equal shares and benefits to their posterity, and appointed certain persons, hereinafter designated legislators and public servants, administrators and executors of their said will, and requiring them before entering on the duties of administration to take a solemn oath or obligation to faithfully execute the provisions of their will.

Complainants represent that among other provisions of said will, designed by the fathers, as declared in the preamble thereof, "To establish justice, to secure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity," were the following : "To coin money," "To borrow money," and "To dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other properties belonging to (the people of) the United States."

But complainants aver and charge that said legislators and public servants, in violation of their solemn obligations, combining and confederating with other heirs and legatees, hereinafter designated banking, railway and other corporations and favored classes, entered into a great conspiracy with them for plundering a large portion of the heirs of their rightful inheritance in said properties for their especial use and benefit ; and, in order to accomplish their nefarious designs, falsely assumed that the power "To coin money," "To borrow money," and "To dispose of the territory and other properties" of the heirs, conferred upon them *discretionary* power to sell, give and alienate these properties to said corporations and favored classes like absolute sovereigns : and that, thus usurping powers not conferred by the testament of the fathers, instead of coining money for the common benefit of the heirs, they have coined substitutes for money

deprived of a part of the functions of money, causing their depreciation ; and when by this cause they were greatly depreciated and had been secured by themselves, bankers and other favored heirs, then, likewise perverting the power "To borrow money," provided for receiving these depreciated substitutes for money as being *money borrowed* and converted them at par into an interest-bearing public debt, freed from all taxation, and proceeded to levy taxes on the balance of the heirs for the benefit of themselves and their confederates.

And complainants further aver and charge that said legislators and public servants, in the execution of the great conspiracy, without any authority in the testament of the fathers, created said banking, railway and other corporations and transferred to them the ownership and control of the money and public highways with vast amounts of the territory constituting the United States ; in all of which complainants aver they have an equal interest ; but that, through the usurpations of powers not conferred and the perversions of powers conferred by the testament of their fathers, as herein recited, and many others not specified, their said legislators and public servants have completely plundered and disinherited them of their equal rights in the estate of their fathers, and that said unlawful claimants of said properties now monopolizing them are wresting from them a great share of the profits of their daily labor for the use thereof.

Wherefore complainants bring suit in the People's High Court of Sovereignty, and demand that they be restored to their equal rights in the properties bequeathed to them by the said testament of their fathers ; that the said corporations and other favored classes shall be ousted from their illegal possession thereof ; that the said legislators and public servants who have robbed and plundered them of their equal rights in said properties shall be ousted from the administration ; and that other administrators and executors shall be appointed in their stead. And as in duty bound to themselves, their God, their families and their country, memorialists will ever pray.

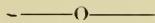
—o—

### TO OUR MONOPOLISTS.

GENTLEMEN : You will observe that the author of this work has discarded the popular methods of denouncing monopolists and millionaires, while honoring the legislators and public servants who have unconstitutionally and treasonably, in violation of their oaths and trusts, plundered the people of their national or common properties and transferred them to you, through the ownership and control of which you have become millionaires and are impoverishing and enslaving the people for their use. He recognizes the fact that you are but men, with like passions of others, and that probably a great majority of those who denounce you, had they possessed the sagacity or had the opportunities that have tempted you, they would have done as you have done. So he blames you not except in so far as you may have used bribes, directly or indirectly, in corrupting the legislators and public servants of the people in the acquisition of these

properties. But *these* he has scoured with a pitiless exposure of their methods in undermining and destroying the fundamental principles of our government and paving the way to Monarchy and Imperialism.

It is with the hope of arresting this ultimate, which all history shows can only be reached through a bloody revolution, and which, in our government, would probably prove more ruinous, even to your own interests, than has ever occurred in the history of the world. The author therefore urges you to pause and reflect. He has pointed out methods by which these disasters may be prevented without doing any injury to yourselves or others: and he submits the question for your earnest consideration: Would it not be better, even for your own interests, to aid in the great movement for a peaceful solution of our political troubles than to submit them to the doubtful arbitrament of brute force? History is repeating itself in the methods by which the great crisis is being approached, but history need not and *will* not repeat itself in its solution. Mark our words!



#### TO PATRIOTS AND REFORMERS.

The author hopes he has convinced you that the land, the money and public highways of communication and commerce are national or common properties which rightfully belong to the people in equal shares and benefits, and that whoever (any one or class of citizens), by whatever means, whether by brute force with sword and spear, as usually practiced in the establishment of Monarchies, or through the forms of unconstitutional laws, as practiced by the legislators and public servants of the people in Republican governments, can or may acquire the ownership and control of these properties, thereby acquires the elements of all wealth and sovereignty, and the power of enslaving the people for their use. All history demonstrates these truths, and hence it is manifest that the people must resume the ownership, control and their equal rights in these properties as the first and most important measure in maintaining their sovereignty and liberties. History also demonstrates the truth that no man nor set of men can be entrusted with *discretionary* power in the administration and distribution of these properties; that kings have ever seized and appropriated them for the maintenance of their sovereignty and the enslavement of the people for their use; that aristocrats and oligarchs have seized and appropriated them for like purposes; while our own legislators and public servants, entrusted with them under the most solemn obligations to divide and distribute them among the people in equal shares and benefits and to protect them in their equal rights therein, have, in violation of their oaths and trusts, robbed the people of them and transferred them in vast amounts and unequal shares and benefits to corporations and favored persons and classes, which, now holding a monopoly of them, are enslaving the disinherited industrial millions for their use, precisely as in Monarchies or oligarchies. Hence, it is manifest the people, as the sec-

ond measure of political reform, must by constitutional amendments more clearly define, limit and restrain their legislators and public servants in the administration and distribution of these properties. And hence, the author, reasoning from facts which cannot be disputed or gainsaid, having exposed the unconstitutional methods by which the legislators and public servants of the people have plundered them of their equal rights in these properties, has formulated a people's platform demanding the necessary measures for their recovery by the people, and a constitutional amendment more clearly defining, limiting and restraining their public servants in the administration of these properties in the future. Can we not unite on these two cardinal principles or measures in the election of legislators and public servants who will execute them ? If not, then it needs no prophet, nor son of a prophet, to declare that there is and can be no hope of redemption ; and that history must and will be repeated in the destruction of our government as other republics have been destroyed in past ages of the world. But no extreme or radical measures can be used in the process of resumption that will inflict any real injury on any class of citizens, else the people can never be sufficiently united in the election of public servants to execute them.

You will observe that in the body of our work and in the proposed people's platform and constitutional amendment we have utterly ignored the so-called great question of

#### THE TARIFF.

not that we regard it as an absolutely unimportant question, but because it is overshadowed by the necessity of reinstating the fundamental principles which constitute the basis and very existence of our government. And we now affirm, and correct statistics will prove its truth, that the people have been and are yet being plundered of more money and more of the profits of their labor in one year through the monopolies of their land, their money and public highways, than has been done through *unnecessarily* high tariffs during the whole existence of our government. And the truth is, that the undue prominence given to this question in every political campaign is but a conspiracy between the leaders and bosses of the two old parties to call off the attention of the people from their great robberies, and keep them warring upon each other in their respective parties, while *they*, with their bastard corporations and favored classes, are absolutely impoverishing and enslaving them through rents for land, interest for money and tribute on their commerce over their public highways. The arguments used in this tariff contest by the party leaders, orators and bosses of both parties are based upon groundless assumptions, gross exaggerations of facts or downright falsehoods. The true policy exists between them, and the tariff, if properly adjusted, would be a tariff for *protection as well as for revenue*. So we say to the people and all reformers, to absolutely refuse to listen to any discussion of this question until their equal rights in their land, their money and public highways shall have been restored to them, and their legislators and public servants shall be forever

restrained from robbing them of them. Then we will be able to adjust the tariff and other less important questions on true economic principles.

—o—  
T H E E N D.

NOTE.—We had just completed this work and placed it in the hands of the printers for publication, when our attention was arrested by the information that Secretary Lamar had overruled or reversed the rulings of Land Commissioner Sparks in relation to certain lands seized or located by the Omaha and other railway companies outside of their vast reservations, amounting, as was stated, to 329,000 acres. It appears that Commissioner Sparks had decided they were illegally located, and declared the lands to be public domain and subject to homestead settlement. But it seems the fiat of Secretary Lamar has the effect to give to these railroad companies 329,000 acres of land outside of their reservations without any special statute providing for it. We know nothing further in respect to this question. These lands are probably worth a million or a million and a half of dollars, and the ruling of Secretary Lamar virtually has the effect to invest these companies with the title. It is plain to be seen that these railway companies, as a profitable business transaction, could well afford to pay Secretary Lamar a quarter or half million of dollars, or a large share of the spoils, to bias his judgment. We do not charge that this was done, but it is manifestly possible. We only refer to the matter to impress upon the minds of the people the absolute necessity of more definitely limiting and restraining the power of their public servants from plundering them of their national or common properties and transferring them to corporations and favored persons or classes. This we have urged throughout our work.

THE AUTHOR.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 027 273 557 8